



BEAUREGARD PARISH

August 2006

COMPLETION REPORT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT A GLANCE

7	<i>Drinking Water Plant Assessments</i>
12	<i>Industry Damage Assessments</i>
14	<i>School Lab Assessments</i>

Since September 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) have worked together to address environmental hazards from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to help Beauregard Parish recover.

One of EPA and LDEQ's first priorities was to ensure residents returning to all the

cities affected by the hurricanes had safe drinking water. Throughout Beauregard Parish, seven assessments were conducted at drinking water facilities.



Next, EPA and LDEQ turned to federally-permitted facilities. The agencies conducted interviews and site visits at hazardous waste storage, transfer or disposal facilities through March 2006. During this time, 12 facilities in Beauregard Parish were addressed. The site visits and interviews established that employees could return to work at facilities operating in accordance with federal and state regulations.

Because of concerns that damaged chemicals in school biology and chemistry laboratories could cause a health hazard, EPA and LDEQ conducted assessments at schools in southern Louisiana. Some chemical containers were found to be damaged by the hurricanes, by flood waters and/or from heat exposure. EPA and LDEQ, in coordination with the Louisiana State Police and local fire departments, removed dangerous chemicals from schools in southern Louisiana. Fourteen schools in Beauregard Parish were assessed; chemicals were removed from 4 of them.



Left: EPA testing hazardous materials to transport to a packaging facility for disposal or recycling.